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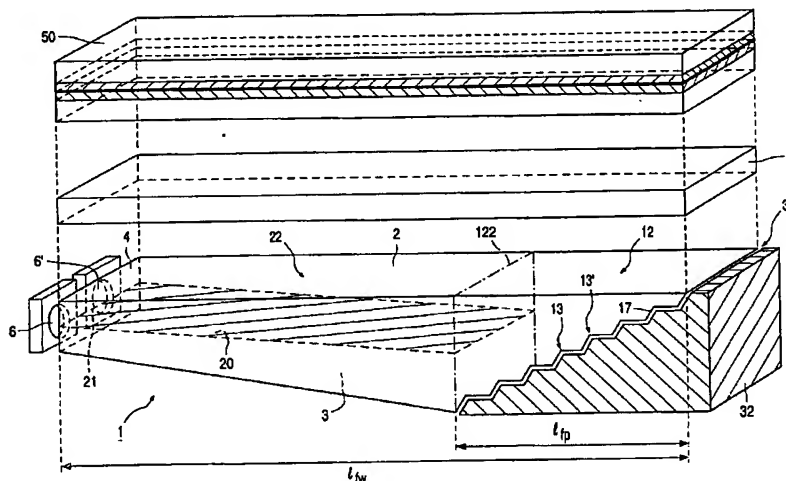
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(54) Title: **COMPACT LIGHTING SYSTEM AND DISPLAY DEVICE**



(57) Abstract: A compact backlight system has a light-emitting panel (1) with a front wall (2), a rear wall (3) situated opposite thereto, and furthermore, between the front and the rear wall (2, 3), a translucent input edge surface (4) for coupling light into the light-emitting panel (1). A light source (6, 6', ...) is associated with the input edge surface (4). According to the invention, the rear wall (3) in a first portion (12) of the light-emitting panel (1) is provided with a multiplicity of steps (13, 13', ...), and a second portion (22) of the light-emitting panel (1) widens from the input edge surface (4) in a direction facing the first portion (12). Preferably, a surface (17) of the steps (13, 13', ...) facing the input edge surface (4) makes an angle  $\beta_{av} \geq 5^\circ$  (with respect to a normal on a bisecting plane (20) bisecting the light-emitting panel (1)).

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